

Faculty in Residence

Role Description www.smu.edu/residentialcommons

Commons Introduction

The Residential Commons (RC) will provide an *integrated academic and residential experience* that incorporates a Faculty-in-Residence (FiR) and Faculty Affiliates (FA) who will be the intellectual leaders of each residential community with a Residential Community Director that will shape the social and overall experience of each commons. It is a collaborative initiative that will transform existing residential communities and add an additional five buildings to house both first and second year students at SMU. Each commons will develop traditions, gatherings, and other activities that build community and long-term bonds and affiliation among residents. This model supports a strong residential community with an emphasis on academic and social balance that will enhance personal exploration and growth for students.

Overview of Faculty Programs

Research shows that students interacting with faculty outside of the classroom produce positive outcomes (cognitive and personal development, student satisfaction, retention, etc.) that are attributed to student engagement in higher education. The two main opportunities faculty will have to be involved in the RC program are through the Faculty in Residence and Faculty Affiliate Programs.

The FiR program strives to create opportunities for students to know faculty members outside of the classroom to emphasize a culture of mentorship, intellectual discourse, and community that are cultivated in all aspects of the collegiate experience inside and outside of the classroom. The FiR role is a cornerstone of the residential life experience that will create opportunities for students to informally interact with faculty members living amongst them.

The FA program will be an opportunity for faculty who want to be affiliated with a RC, but may not be ready to or have the desire to live in a RC. Faculty members will get to know their communities early in the academic year and build relationships by attending programs, coming to the RC on a regular basis, and dining with residents.

Qualifications

- Full-Time Faculty Status or Equivalent in the view of the Selection Committee
- Approval from Department Chair & Dean





Faculty in Residence Expectations

FiRs will be expected to:

- Serve as the intellectual leader of their residential commons and work together with the Residential Community Director (RCD) in cultivating and engaging community
- Build individual relationships with residents by interacting with them regularly
- Create opportunities to get to know all students informally and create an academic environment supported by the residential staff
- Be visible in the community by attending programs and events hosted by the residential commons and university
- Communicate often with Residential Community Director and Assistant Director of Academic Initiatives and Outreach
- Live primarily in the Residential Commons during the academic year
- Abide by all contractual obligations

Specific Responsibilities (Unless granted through exception):

- Facilitating a Common Reading discussion group
- Welcoming parents and students during move-in days
- Attend First Year Convocation and Second Year Ceremonies as part of the procession
- Create an end of the year report based on how their experience was and what was accomplished

Living Arrangement

FiR's are required to primarily live on campus in a RC during the academic year. The apartments vary slightly in size and amenity but will include:

- At least two bedrooms
- A living room space that can be used to host student dinners and socials with students separate from the living quarters
- Additional office space in the RC
- Specific parking near (not always adjacent) to residence
- Basic cable, internet, and phone service
- Dining hall meals will be given to dine and interact with residents
- The ability to have a pet living in the residence (see pet policy)
- Some moving cost at the beginning
- Some Common Room Furniture for Faculty Residence
- Some Additional Storage





Compensation

Due to the time commitment of the FiR role faculty will be compensated with the amenities of an apartment on campus that will be provided at no additional cost that will give them access to the Highland Park School Districts and local benefits of being located in the North Dallas community. Additionally the FiR may choose one of the following benefits packages:

- \$5,000 Compensation (prorated on a monthly basis) **OR**
- 1 Course Load Reduction/Year negotiated with Department Chair (May not be compensated for overload teaching for the Fall or Spring Semesters if the course reduction is chosen)

Appointment

FiRs would be appointed to a 3 year term with the possibility of an extension to a 4th year.

Example Week (For illustrative purposes only)

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
8:30PM	2PM Meet	_	12PM Meet	-	2PM Attend	
Attend Staff	with RCD to		with two		Sporting or	
Meeting with	talk about		students for		Cultural	
RA Staff for	upcoming		lunch		Event with 15	
30 minutes	events				residents	
			7PM Attend			
	7:30PM Host		Sporting or			
	weekly		Cultural			
	cookies &		Event with 8			
	milk open		residents			
	house					

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